

The Hartford News

March 26 – April 1, 2019



Response to Coronavirus Tightens Its Grip on City

BY ANDY HART

As the number of confirmed Coronavirus cases in Connecticut continues to climb, Governor Ned Lamont and Mayor Luke Bronin have taken additional steps in a drastic effort to limit the spread of the disease.

On Friday, March 20, Lamont ordered all employees of non-essential businesses and non-profit organizations to stay home and work from there, if possible. The governor's "Stay Safe, Stay at Home," order went into effect Monday, March 23, at 8 pm. Essential employees include police, fire and ambulance personnel, healthcare professionals, veterinarians, grocery store and pharmacy employees, construction workers, warehouse and distribution workers, gas station workers and several other occupations. The full list can be found at <https://portal.ct.gov/DECD/Content/Coronavirus-for-Businesses/Coronavirus-for-Businesses>.

Later on Friday, Mayor Luke Bronin announced that non-essential gatherings of more than 10 people will be prohibited in Hartford for the duration of the Coronavirus crisis. At the same time, Hartford School Superintendant Leslie Torres-Rodriguez announced that laptop computers will be loaned to students who need them in order that they might participate in the school system's Distance Learning Initiative, which is scheduled to begin Monday, March 30, and continue as long as schools remain closed. The computers will be loaned out at the school system's 16 meal distribution sites (see page 2).

The Coronavirus is continuing to spread in Connecticut. As of Tuesday, 618 state residents, including 88 in Hartford County, have tested positive for the disease. More than 5,300 tests have been conducted in the state among both state and private laboratories. Approximately 71 people have been hospitalized and 12 people have died due to complications of COVID-19.

Lamont is asking Connecticut's hospitals and other healthcare facilities to increase capacity in anticipation of a large increase in the number of patients stricken with the Coronavirus who require hospitalization. On Tuesday, the governor toured a mobile field hospital that has been set up off Ashley Street on the grounds of Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center.

In addition, in an effort to mitigate the economic hardship caused by the current health crisis, federal and state income taxes are now due on July 15, rather than April 15.

West End to be Featured in Next Week's Hartford News

Next week's Hartford News will feature listings of West End area businesses that are open and working to make it through the current Coronavirus crisis. In addition, if you would like to advertise your business in this special edition, call us at 860-296-6128.



Singing Through the Crisis



On Sunday, March 22, West End resident Carolyn Paine (left) hosted a "Porch Concert" from her second floor apartment on Whitney Street. She invited neighbors to simultaneously sing the song "One More Day" from the musical Les Miserables on their own porches throughout the neighborhood. Several did join in the event at their own homes in order to maintain social distancing during the Coronavirus crisis. A few neighbors also turned out in front of Paine's home to sing along, including (above) Amy, Grace and Catherine Bolton. The event was inspired by Italians who have sung songs together from their balconies while they are quarantined due to the Coronavirus. (Hart photos)

OPEN FOR BUSINESS

Local shops and venues make changes in the wake of COVID19

BY ANNE GOSHDIKIAN

The Wethersfield Avenue corridor that leads straight to the Silas Deane Highway is a business-dense area, one heavily frequented by Hartford residents of the South End, south Downtown, and the Southwest neighborhoods. A check of activity on that road during the State-mandated shutdown of non-essential businesses revealed the measures some others have put in place, allowing them to remain open to serve the public while maintaining social distancing. Those measures vary widely, and there are a couple of surprises.

At the corner of Wethersfield Avenue and Brown Street, Sam's Sunoco station & convenience store is carrying on business as usual; customers picking up grocery items, chicken dinners, lottery tickets, and cigarettes and smoking "accessories". Employees there have noticed some minor fluctuations in business activity. The store remains open 24/7, but staff has heard rumors that the State may soon mandate an early closing. Across the street at CVS, bright yellow signs abound, even attached to the front door before you step inside—products temporarily unavailable, flu shots still available, and inside they're all about keeping a safe distance from staff and other customers. Folding tables in front of the checkout counters add more distance between customer and cashier and also hold the credit/debit card machines. Behind those spots, orange tape on the floor indicates an area that customers waiting in line cannot cross. The midnight closing time has changed to 8 p.m.

Down the street, Top Kat Super Laundromat remains open, but there is no social distancing policy or signage in place. Has business been affected? "We've had lots of business in the last four days", replied Marisol, the store manager. She's not sure if the laundromat will be allowed to stay open, and is concerned about customers who group together. "How can I control the number of people to be less than ten?" she asked, and is awaiting word from the owner as to how to proceed. Crossing over to Franklin Avenue, Mozzicato Café is closed but the bakery remains open. Owner Gino Mozzicato explains that because the Café has seating it falls under the restaurant category, but the bakery has been given the okay to keep selling breads, cookies, pastries, calzones, and pizza slices. Over on Maple Avenue, about 15 cars are parked in the lot at the Goodwin Park Golf Course, but looking out on the practice putting green, driving range, and fairway behind the (closed) clubhouse and restaurant, and the open pro shop (with a "one person only" at a time sign on the door), no one was visible on the sunny, mild day save for a lone groundskeeper. But after a few minutes one golfer appeared. Jim Pinto, age 84, has been playing at Goodwin for decades, and said the course was open but for walking only; no carts allowed. "I can only manage about six holes now, but it's good to be out there", he said. As far as social distancing goes, a golf course with all its open

Continued on page 6

Hartford...Once Upon a Time



Before Hartford adopted a "strong mayor" form of government in 2003, the role of the mayor was mainly ceremonial – and few threw themselves into that role with as much relish as George Athanson (left). Athanson, who served as mayor from 1971 - 1981, is shown here riding one of the lions that guard the Arch Street entrance to Hartford City Hall as a promotion for a show that was coming to town. Athanson passed away on January 9, 2000. (Photo courtesy of the Carl Candels Collection)

Coronavirus (COVID-19) SYMPTOMS

The following symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure.* Source: U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention.



Graphic Courtesy of the Center for Disease Control

*Symptoms based on what has been seen previously as the incubation period of MERS-CoV viruses.

Drive-up Testing

Both Hartford Hospital and Saint Francis Hospital & Medical Center have opened drive-up testing for the Coronavirus. At both test sites, you must present a written request for testing from your doctor and valid identification. Only those with an order from their doctor will be tested as test equipment and staff are currently limited. The actual test lasts approximately 5 minutes. Results can be expected in several days.

HARTFORD HOSPITAL
Test Site: Education and Resource Center, 560 Hudson Street, Hartford
Hours: 9 am - 5pm, 7 days a week

SAINT FRANCIS HOSPITAL & MEDICAL CENTER
Test Site: Gengras Building, 1000 Asylum Avenue (entrance off Woodland Street), Hartford.
Hours: 8 am - 4 pm, 7 days a week

16 City Schools Distributing Meals and Computers for Students



Evelyn Rivera brought David and Danielle Cordero to Burr School Monday morning to pick up their Chromebook laptop computers.

- Last Friday, March 20, Hartford SchoolSuperintendent Dr. Leslie Torres-Rodriguez announced 16 new meal distribution sites (see below) across the City of Hartford for Hartford Public Schools and Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) students, which will replace the 8 sites announced last week. Students and families are encouraged to practice social distancing at pickup sites.
- In addition, Hartford Public Schools plans to distribute Chromebooks to students beginning Monday, March 23, 2020 at the sixteen meal distribution sites. Hartford Public Schools plans to launch distancing learning on Monday, March 30, 2020.
- Barbour St.
 - Hartford Public High School: 55 Forest St.
 - Kennelly School: 180 White St.
 - Moylan School—ELAMS: 101 Catherine St.
 - Parkville Community School: 47 New Park Ave.
 - Sanchez School: 176 Babcock St.
 - Bellizzi School: 215 South St.
 - Betances Early Reading School: 42 Charter Oak Ave.
 - Burr School: 400 Wethersfield Ave.
 - Hartford Magnet Trinity Academy: 53 Vernon St.

- Achievement First: 305 Greenfield St.
 - Classical Magnet School: 85 Woodland St.
 - Rawson School: 260 Holcomb St.
 - Weaver High School: 415 Granby St.
 - Global Communications Academy: 85 Edwards St.
 - SAND School: 1750 Main St.
 - Wish Museum School: 350
- Meals will be distributed on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM. On Mondays and Wednesdays, two days of meals will be provided. On Fridays, three days of meals will be provided.Meals will be distributed frozen with heating instructions in English and Spanish. They should be taken home and cooked or refrigerated quickly. Any child 18 and under can receive meals. Questions? Call 860-695-8490.



Burr School staffers Luz Roman, Yahaira Rivera and Doris Portalatin distribute meals to students on Monday morning. The school is among 16 meal distribution sites in Hartford.



Politically Speaking

A Fresh Look at Issues Facing our Region & State

BY MIKE MCGARRY

Take A Walk, Hartford

As cabin fever spreads, we have one answer: get out and take a walk in Hartford. Over the past decade, Hartford Blooms has organized a whole series of tours around the city, and now is a good time to spread the information we’ve accumulated to local residents, especially those new to the area, through the *Hartford News* and social media.

Starting next week, suggested walking tours will be published in the weekly *Hartford News* (online and, if possible, in print) and sent out to all Hartford Blooms social media contacts.

We are constantly amazed in our conversations with both residents and visitors that the information passed along on Hartford Blooms tours – virtually all of which is readily available and accessible – has not hit home. The old saying, “The best things in life are free,” is still true despite all the distractions of 21st century life, so this series of walks may be just the ticket for the above-mentioned cabin fever.

As a note to those who have expressed an interest in the 2020 Hartford Blooms Spring Tour, it has



Riverfront Recapture's Riverfront Walkway

We will describe the route of the walk and also include key facts like parking availability, access to public restrooms, food outlets, special features and attractions, length of trip (in both time and distance) and any possible difficulties for those with limited mobility.

Getting out into the fresh air is the main benefit, but learning more about our city is a great bonus. Hartford’s architecture is loaded with intriguing details that can best be appreciated slowly and up close, not whizzing by in a car or bus. Invite a friend or family member, make sure to keep a healthy social distance and

been postponed and is currently scheduled for May 29-31. We will continue to monitor the situation regarding the current Coronavirus crisis and will post any changes on our Facebook page and our website, HartfordBlooms.gdn.

However, putting on and promoting these efforts is costly. If any business, non-profit organization or individual would like to partner with Hartford Blooms and its efforts through the *Hartford News*, such support is more than welcome! Please call 860-296-6128 or go to HartfordBlooms.gdn with your suggestions and/or comments.

Letter to the Editor

We already know how to do this, nothing new

Like everyone else, I received an email from Eric Lusa, Assistant City Clerk, informing me about an emergency meeting of the Court of Common Council on March 24th at 3:00 pm. Council President Maly Rosado called the meeting to invoke Governor Ned Lamont’s Executive Order No.7B, “...which states that there will now be in part, as follows suspension of In-Person Open Meeting Requirements. Sections 1-206, 1-225, and 1-226 of the Connecticut General Statutes”. This will allow our municipal government to meet without in-person public access to their meetings. They are allowed to hold the “...proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference or other technology...” We are being told that we can watch the meeting via Hartford Public Access TV.

What I expect to happen is a robust process and system be implemented for public input. I am envisioning what the State of Connecticut Legislature currently does; they post the agendas and create an email link to solicit comments on each agenda item. It is simple and it collates all the comments for each item. All comments are made publicly viewable and any testimony is posted as well within a reasonable amount of time. This would not be a difficult system to set up, even for our technologically-challenged municipal government. I will wait and see what actually happens.

Donna Swarr

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Published by Southside Media
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The Hartford News is published weekly on Thursday by Gamut Publishing, Inc. The publisher does not assume responsibility for errors, omissions, and changes in advertising or editorial material. Advertising rates are available upon request. Deadlines: Advertisements, news releases and articles must be submitted by 5 pm on Monday for publication on Thursday.Rights and Permissions: The entire contents of the Hartford News are copyright 2006 by Gamut Publishing, and no portion may be reproduced in whole or in part by any means without specific written permission of the publisher. All rights reserved. Letters and Submissions: Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. Writers must sign their names and must give an address and a telephone number for verification, although neither address or telephone number will be published. Unsolicited submissions are welcome but must be accompanied with an SASE if return is desired.

Hartford Land Bank: Rebuilding Hartford's Neighborhoods

COMMENTARY BY TOM SWARR

"No city resident should have to live next to a blighted property," advocates Laura Settlemyer, the Executive Director of the newly formed Hartford Land Bank. It is the first such land bank in the state under new laws designed to rehab blighted properties and put them back on the tax rolls under responsible owners.

Laura, a Hartford resident knows the city and its problems, having served as the city's director of blight remediation since 2016. She was also responsible for housing code enforcement and helped develop the new housing code that was adopted last year. She brings deep experience to her new role at the land bank. Her work in land banking and blight remediation began in New Orleans, where she assisted in the rebuilding following Hurricane Katrina. Before coming to Hartford, she was assistant general counsel for Michigan Initiatives for the Center for Community Progress, where she worked closely with the largest land bank in the U.S., the Detroit Land Bank. Laura also serves as a commissioner on the Hartford Housing Authority, chairs the CT Vibrant Communities Coalition, and teaches advanced urban issues at the University of Hartford.

The land bank is building a strong board leadership team that includes Melvyn Colon, Executive Director of the Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance; Amber Elliott, a lawyer and resident of Clay Arsenal; Rex Fowler, CEO at Hartford Community Loan Fund; James Horan, Executive Director of Hartford & Connecticut Local Initiatives Support Corporation; Raul Irizarry, a landscape architect and resident of Frog Hollow; Steve Harris, a retired City of Hartford firefighter and former City Councilmember; Karraine Moody, Executive Director of Hartford Habitat for Humanity; and Elda Sinani, Deputy Director of Development Services for the City of Hartford, overseeing Licenses & Inspections and the Blight Remediation Team. There are also three slots currently open for Mayoral appointees.

The Land Bank begins with \$5 million in funding provided by the state and a \$175,000 grant provided by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. The Land Bank can play several roles in bringing together the city, developers, and community members in efforts to



Laura Settlemyer, Executive Director of Hartford's new Land Bank

eliminate blight. The state also passed legislation last year that will allow the Land Bank to hold properties in receivership and begin renovation without going through a lengthy foreclosure process. In some cases, the Land Bank could purchase and redevelop properties. In others where a community-based developer is interested in a property, the Land Bank could simply facilitate by cleaning up title issues or doing some partial demolition or environmental work, and then pass to the developer. The Land Bank is still in an early organizational stage, but initial priorities are expected to be in the North End and Frog Hollow neighborhoods.

The Land Bank will work to find responsible developers and owners to return properties to productive use. Another key goal will be additional fund raising. Laura estimates Hartford could completely eliminate blight with an investment of \$25 to \$30 million.

If you have a property you wish to see developed or to develop, or if you simply want to learn more about the Land Bank, please call the main number at (860) 335-0347 or email Laura Settlemyer directly at Laura@hartfordland-bank.org.

Hartford Flavor Retools to Produce Sanitizer

When the United States plunged in World War II in 1941, the Gray Pay Telephone factory on Arbor Street in Hartford stopped making phones, retooled its machinery, and started producing weapons for the war.

Now Hartford Flavor, which is located in the old telephone factory, is responding to the current Coronavirus crisis in a similar way. Last Thursday, after receiving approval from the federal government, the company switched from producing flavored liqueurs to turning out bottles of hand sanitizer.

Lelaneia Dubay, co-owner of Hartford Flavor along with her husband Tom, said that when the State of Connecticut ordered the closing of all restaurants and bars to prevent the spread of the Coronavirus, it initially seemed like her company would have to shut its doors, at least temporarily.

"Almost all our customers had to close, so it looked like we'd have to do the same. We're a small business, we don't have the cash reserves to pull us through if we weren't getting orders," she said. With no orders coming in, Hartford Flavor began laying off its employees.

Then the Dubays started to read up on how distilleries in other parts of the country were dealing with the crisis by producing hand sanitizer, the main ingredient of which is alcohol.

After the company started producing sanitizer, it became clear that demand for the product was high.

"We started producing on Thursday and on Saturday and Sunday there were lines [of customers] out the door almost all day long," said Tom Dubay.

"We were able to bring back all our employees and even add some," said Lelaneia.

While Hartford Flavor is selling its hand sanitizer to the public, it is also giving out hundreds of bottles to police officers, firefighters, healthcare professionals, postal workers and others on the front



Lelaneia Dubay, co-owner of Hartford Flavor, cuts labels and employee Cerise Taylor fills bottles with hand sanitizer at the company's production facility on Arbor Street Tuesday afternoon. Below is Hartford Flavor employee Brazos Ebner mixing up another batch of sanitizer. (Hart photos)



lines of the battle against the Coronavirus. At a press conference last Friday, Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin publicly thanked Hartford Flavor for providing hand sanitizer to the city's first responders.

Hartford Flavor is currently producing two-ounce and four-ounce spray bottles of hand sanitizers as well as 13-ounce and 26-ounce refill bottles. Tom said due to the current crisis spray bottles have become scarce and he added that

people should hold on to any they have in order to reuse them.

The Dubays said that they hope sales of their sanitizer will generate enough revenue to purchase supplies and pay employees so that Hartford Flavor can continue providing the product to first responders at no or little cost.

Before the Coronavirus hit, the five-year-old company was on the upswing, but thanks to its innovative thinking, this may be its finest hour yet.



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Coronavirus Emergency Things You Can Still Do Hartford Athletic Fitness Show



Don't miss the Hartford Athletic Fitness Series, presented by Trinity Health of New England live on the team's Instagram channel (@hfdathletic) on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6pm. Hartford Athletic's Lucas Krue (@lucasskrue), a world renowned strength and fitness coach, will be conducting these sessions. These workouts are designed for all levels and ages -- no equipment necessary!

In addition to Hartford Athletic, Lucas trains daily some of the greatest soccer players in the world including Douglas Costa, David Luiz, Thiago Alcantara, Fred and many more, and you may just see some celebrities joining in on the fun with you (think Premier League Mornings, ESPN FC, Men in Blazers...). Just bring a positive attitude, and, after every workout, you will feel better than you did before.

Baila Con Gusto CT

Watch this YouTube channel for free live online Salsa & Bachata Classes. The schedule is: Mondays, 7pm: Beginner Steps and Wednesdays, 8pm: Mixed Level Footwork. More surprise streams weekly! Stream on your phone, pc, or even on TV from the comfort of your home!

CRT Seeks Volunteer Cooks and Drivers

Do you have professional cooking skills and want to volunteer your time with a great cause?

The Community Renewal Team (CRT) needs experienced volunteers to help with food prep weekdays for its Meals On Wheels program and other senior nutrition needs. If you are ServSafe certified and can give even a few hours a week, please apply. CRT also needs drivers to help deliver meals.

To apply as a volunteer food service worker or driver, go to: https://crt.formstack.com/forms/crt_mow_volunteers.

Outdoor Excursions – Hartford Murals

Need to take walks to clear your mind? Maybe you just want to get out of the house and see something different? Maybe you heard about these, but never had the time to see them for yourself? Below is a list of Hartford murals and their locations. Enjoy, they are a treat for the eyes!



This mural honoring baseball Hall of Famer and humanitarian Roberto Clemente was painted by Corey Paine on the side of the concession stand at Colt Park. It is one of many outdoor murals located in Hartford.

TITLE	LOCATION	ARTIST	ORGANIZATION
Daydream Amid The Flowers	Willie Ware Center 679 Windsor St	Corey Paine	Paint the City
Paper-Hatted Boy	Metzner Center 680 Franklin Ave	Damien Mitchell	Paint the City
Clemente	Colt Park Concession Stand	Corey Paine	Rise Up
Martin Luther King Nonviolence Mural	Colt Park Concession Stand	Corey Paine	Rise Up
Local Historical Figures	Goodyear Bldg 300 Market Street	Local Artists/Community	Rise Up
Peace, Love, Unity	Windsor Street underpass	Local Artists/Community	Rise Up
Let's Paint	Pope Park Highway	Local Artists/Community	Rise Up
Chango Rosa Mural	Union Place	Local Artists	Rise Up
New Vision	Bulkeley HS Annex 250 Wethersfield Ave	Local Artists/Community	Rise Up
Cirque du Soleil Luzia	Constitution Plaza State Street	Local Artists	Rise Up
Abstract	Kennelly School 180 White St	John Paul Ogradnick	Paint the City
Hartford Heroes	110 Washington St	Nicole Johnson	Paint the City
Give Peace A Chance	Breakthrough II 395 Lyme St	Nick Frasco	Paint the City
Music Is The Link	Parker Memorial 2621 Main St	Edwin Sepulveda	Paint the City
Watching Over The Men	McKinney Shelter 34 Huyshope Ave	Yuliya Puhach	Paint the City
Avenue Rhythm Jackie McLean	Achievement First 305 Greenfield St.	Sarah Ward	Paint the City
Untitled	Maple Avenue Mews	Joey Batts	Congress St Condo Assoc

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COMMENTARY BY ANNE GOSHDIGIAN

According to a story in last Friday’s Hartford Courant, the spike in unemployment claims by those who’ve been laid off from their jobs (most of them hourly wage-slaves) has also had a detrimental effect on another demographic-- billionaire business owners. In the article, the reporter interviewed one such magnate. I’ll give you a hint: This Hartford-based Parking Czar is an extremely wealthy gentleman, and he sure didn’t get that way by being LAZY!

The Czar, founder of the second largest parking company in the USA, has an operation encompassing 3,100 locations in 423 cities, and 15,000 employees. He’s had to “furlough” one-third of them because the garage-and-lot parking business has dropped off due to COVID19. Billions of government bailout dollars are going to be available for hard-hit industries, and the Czar wants the parking industry to get a chunk of that and has been lobbying both state and federal officials. Now, I don’t know about you, but I’ve never thought of valet parking as an essential industry. Okay, so let him go for it. But he also wants the government to cover 100% of the wages for his company’s employees while they’re out of work.

Uh, Czar? That’s called unemployment (but no one gets 100%). When you “furloughed” them, they were given pink slips, right? And with an operation that large, I’m sure that as an employer you’ve always paid into Unemployment, yes? So if those ducks are lined up, they’ll be paid. And you and other major players in the industry can make up the difference.

Here’s an idea: How about you make your way overpriced parking spots free at all hospital lots and garages for the duration of the pandemic?

Thoughts on the New Normal of Coronavirus

COMMENTARY BY BILL KATZ

Besides the need to stay isolated from each other for a period of time, I believe that our dirty money can be a conduit for transmission. It gets handled by more hands than our body parts. Therefore, I’m calling on everyone to surrender their cold hard cash and give it to me for safe keeping.

Seriously, handling cash is a dirty old business. Now, I put on my rubber gloves when I leave my house and only touch cash with my gloves on. I was able to purchase two packs of rubber gloves giving me 16 pairs costing me a total of \$2.00 plus tax. If anyone needs a pair, I will sell them for \$20.00 a pair? I sense my humor isn’t being appreciated.

I have completed my consumable purchases and I can survive on my supplies for 2 months without leaving my house. Some of my staples are 25 pounds of flour to make bread and pizza. I have stockpiled dried beans and canned beans and enough brown rice to take me through to late spring. I make black bean burgers, and I have endless supplies of beans to accommodate my taste for veggie burgers. My egg supply will last until May 1. My cats have enough homemade chicken food now frozen to also last two months. My four cases of French Bourdeaux wine (an absolute staple in my house) should last awhile. My water is sourced from the water tap and filtered through my Brita.

I thought driving through the streets of Hartford was dangerous until I recently walked my cart around inside a Costco store. Man, those shoppers were racing through the aisles loaded with multiple cases of toilet paper only to be stopped at the checkout line and made to surrender all toilet paper packages excluding the one per customer permitted. How much can a person use of this product? I only have 5 rolls remaining but that will last quite awhile. I could understand if Trump was buying such large quantities since he is obviously full of it.

We keep screwing with Mother Nature and she keeps sending return messages to cut it out. This time it’s a pandemic. Other messages have been in the form of hurricanes, floods and firestorms. Will we ever learn? I think the answer is a resounding, “No.” Our greed and ignorance are evident.

Besides the manic destruction of our planet, we are grossly overpopulated. In my short sweet life, the human population has more than doubled. Think about it. No amount of green-focused energy programs will ever make up for the overpopulation and overuse of the planet. Many of us may disagree in order to rationalize our behavior. Who knows. Maybe this is nature’s necessary way of trying to thin the herd for its own survival.

Don’t ask me to go outside anytime soon. Don’t come to my door to make a wellness call. (Someone did and I was too busy playing with the cats to answer it.) The more I stay away from you, the healthier I’ll be. One of my few outside activities is to purchase food for my friend who is in his 80s and deliver supplies to his condo and leave it outside in the hall at the Woodland House. I’ll soon find out how else I can help other elderly folks. We should have a local database of elderly who need food delivered to their homes. Apparently we don’t.

I called the Red Cross but it’s always impossible to get through to a person. My Sister’s Place kindly responded and told me they would keep my offer active. I could only leave a message at Hartford Health and Human Services but no one has responded. I believe CRTs Meals-on-Wheels (info courtesy of Edwin Vargas) is the place to request cooked meals. There is a

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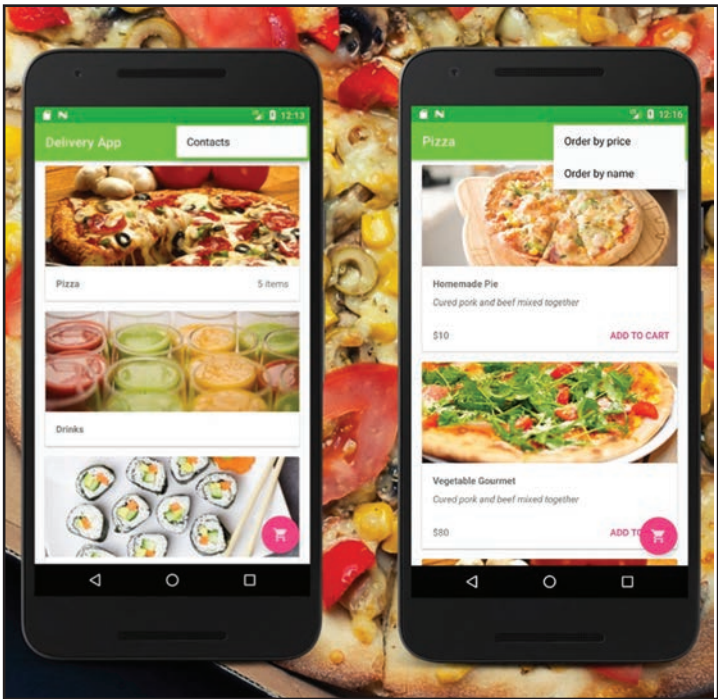
“You Want Fries With That?”

Over 40 Hartford Restaurants Offering Meals to Go

BY DONNA SWARR

The MetroHartford Alliance, Hartford’s Chamber of Commerce, did a survey to find which restaurants are open for take out or delivery. I consider it my civic duty to help out. Yes, you could buy gift cards, but right now they need to keep their cooks and chefs busy, too. This list of over 40 restaurants was created last Wednesday and there are probably other businesses open, but didn’t respond.

Please check the website of each restaurant to ensure hours and offerings going forward as it may change daily. If you know of a restaurant that is not listed but is open, please contact the Hartford Chamber of Commerce, 860-525-4451 or jconcepcion@metrohartford.com. Disclaimer: Life for all of us is changing on a daily basis so details might change. Don't worry, you won't go hungry.



Restaurant	Address	Phone	Hours	Pickup/Delivery Option
Agave	100 Allyn St	882-1557	11-7p	Pick up and delivery
Artichoke Basille	114 Asylum St.	969-6128	12-8p	Pick up
Bahn Mee	399 Capitol Ave 130 Ann Uccello St	880-2264	Check ahead	Pick up
Bear’s BBQ	25 Front St.	785-8772	12-8p	Pick up
Berkins On Oak	21 Oak St	206-6959	7a-2p, M-F.	Call for details
Brazil Grill	1996 Park St # A	523-5477	11-9p	Pick-up
Capital Grille	44 Front St	244-0075	11:30-3p 5-10p	Pick up
City Steam Brewery	942 Main St	525-1600	12-8p	Pick up
Coyote Flaco	635 New Britain Ave	953-1299	Reg. hours	Pick up
Dhaba Wala	49 Asylum Street	232-1500	11-10p	Pick up
Donde Julio Rest.	83 Park St	724-3379	7:30-6p	Pick up
El Nuevo Sarape	931 Broad St	547-1884	9-8p	Pick up
El Poeta	22 Pratt St	231-1268	8-7p	Pick Up -cash only
El Pollo Guapo	Front St	246-2800	11-7p	Pick up and delivery
First and Last	939 Maple Ave	956-6000	11 – 7p	Pick up and delivery
Fornarelli’s Rest.	283 Asylum St	244-2016	CALL	Pick up
Freshii	892 Main St	900-0231	7-9p	Pick up
Ichiban	530 Farmington Ave	236-5599	11-9p	Pick up
J Restaurant	297 Washington St	527-7764	11a-10	Pick up
Casita Del Sabor	1405 Park St	920-9560	9-10p	Pick up
Modern Pastry	422 Franklin Ave	296-7628	8-3p	Pick up
Monte Alban	521 Farmington Ave	523-7423	10-8p	Pick up
Mozzicato’s	329 Franklin Avenue	296-0426	7-8p	Pick up and delivery
Parilla Y Sabores	342 Franklin Ave	296-7276	10a-10p	Pick up
Peppercorn’s Grill	357 Main St	547-1714	3-8p	Pick up and deliver
Pietro’s Pizza	942 Main St	722-9514	10-10p	Pick up and delivery
Piolin Restaurant	417 New Britain Ave	293-1255	11-930p	Pick up
Polish National Home	60 Charter Oak Ave	247-1784	M-Sat	Pick Up (Call for hrs)
Red Rock Tavern	369 Capitol Avenue	246-4527	10:30-9p	Pick up and delivery
Republic at The Linden	10 Capitol Ave	310-3269	11 to 2 & 5 to 7:30	Pick up
Rushbowls Hartford	15 Front St	993-1747	M-F 9-6p & St & Sn 10-6p	Pick up
Sorella	901 Main St	244-9084	1130-10p	Pick up and delivery
Spice Venue	81 Asylum St	244-0000	CALL	Pick up and delivery
Stella’s and Mazie’s	461 Capitol Ave	308-2175	11-2p	Pick up
Story & Soil Coffee	387 Capitol Ave	540-3987	8-2p	Call and order ahead
Sunberry	65 Pratt St	241-0811	9-9p	Pick up and delivery
Tangiers Market	550 Farmington Ave	233-8168	10-8 pm	Pick up
The Blind Pig	89 Arch St	744-4333	12-8p	Pick up or delivery
The Café at Fifty-Five	55 Bartholomew Ave	728-3201	7:30-2:30p	Pick up
The Place 2 Be	615 Franklin Ave	904-7891	7-5p	Pick up and delivery
The Rockin Chicken	476 Franklin Ave	244-2536	11-8p	Pick up and delivery
The Russell	103 Pratt St	727-4014	T-F 12-6p;	Pick up
Toasted	188 Asylum St	1-855-55-TOAST	11-3p	Pick up
Trumbull Kitchen	150 Trumbull St	493-7412	12-8p	Pick up
USS Chowder Pot	165 Brainard Rd	244-3311	11:30-9 p	Pick up and delivery
V Trattoria	280 Trumbull St	904 5453	11:30-7p	Pick up or delivery

HOUSEHOLD PLAN OF ACTION TO DEAL WITH THE CORONAVIRUS

The World Health Organization has classified coronavirus as a pandemic, and they expect the number of cases will increase in the weeks ahead. Every household should take basic steps, like washing hands and minimizing unnecessary contact, and every household should also create a Household Plan of Action.

TALK ...with people who need to be included in your plan. Talk to family and friends about the needs of each person if a coronavirus outbreak occurs in your community, and create a list of chronic health conditions people have. An outbreak is when a large number of people suddenly get sick.	CALL ...Hartford HealthCare's 24-hour, bilingual hotline at 860-972-8100 if you are concerned you have coronavirus symptoms, like fever, cough, and shortness of breath. Do not go to a hospital without calling, unless there is a medical emergency.
DO ...the basics to reduce the chance you get sick, like washing your hands well, avoiding touching your face, and avoiding unnecessary contact with others. 	PLAN ...ways to care for those who are at greater risk, including older people and people of any age with chronic health conditions like heart disease, diabetes, and lung disease. Consult with your health care provider for more information about monitoring your health.
LISTEN ...watch, and read. Pay attention to the news every day. TV, radio, print, and online news sources will have regular updates. Please go to Coronavirus.gov for the latest information from medical experts.	MAKE ...a current list of emergency contacts for family, friends, healthcare providers, schools, employers, and other community resources.

For the latest information about coronavirus/covid-19 in the United States, visit: www.Coronavirus.gov

Stores Respond to Coronavirus

Continued from page 1

acreage seems to be an ideal spot for exercise and relaxation.

Moving on to the Silas Deane at the Hartford-Wethersfield border, business is steady at Steve's Price Cutter Liquor. The store is well-stocked and Harish said there is no problem keeping the shelves and coolers full. Are people buying in greater quantities than usual preparatory the possibility of self-quarantine? "Not really", he said, but noted that wine buyers who regularly pick up one bottle are now getting two at a time. He feels there's a possibility package store hours may be cut. Next door at Price-Rite, grocery shoppers still throng the aisles, and face masks are common. The produce area is extremely well-stocked, but meats and toilet paper are on this day nowhere to be found. Deliveries arrive on Monday and Wednesday and are swiftly sold out. All the cashiers are mandated to wear gloves; but one wears a mask. Asked if that's her personal choice, she says it is and adds with a smile "I have a big mouth and I need to keep it covered."

On the other side of the street, Silas Deane Pawn remains open, but with some major social distancing in place. An employee sits out-

side to ensure that arriving customers follow the new protocol: The door to the left is for pawns; to the right is the door for pickups and renewals. Inside, tables have created a large barrier and 6+ feet distance between customers and the staff who stand behind the counter. Klejdi the owner talks about the pawn shop—only during this time of crisis—as an essential business. "People are out of work and everybody's trying to get money. In essence, we're helping people out." The national Pawnbrokers Association has asked for special dispensation for that industry, and Klejdi has taken it upon himself to apply to the CEDC for a waiver to keep the business open. Finally, Karen Oppen, owner of That Book Store—an independent business on the Silas Deane—has closed the store to browsers and shoppers. She did contact the State to consider the bookstore an essential business, with no reply. But for the time being, books, games, toys, gifts, and other items are available from her in-store stock (which can be viewed on the shop's web page) and she offers free personal delivery within a "reasonable" distance. For more information, email contact@thatbookstore.com, or call or text 860-899-1754.

Looking Ahead to Better Times

Saving the Planet and Ourselves

COMMENTARY BY TOM SWARR

It is all too easy to fall into depression with the barrage of scary news on the spread of COVID-19. Images of protesters at the State Capitol demanding the right to not vaccinate their children against the measles, our president calling this a hoax to hurt his reelection odds, or of shoppers hoarding toilet paper and bottled water can drive a person who believes in science (I confess) into despair. I need some happy, or at least hopeful thoughts.

Let's start with some facts about the spread of the virus. The CDC tells us the primary method of spreading is between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet) through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. We can all help by following recommendations on social distancing. I am taking advantage of this down time to catch up on reading and look ahead to better times.

The City is currently in the midst of revising its plan of conservation and development. It has asked for residents to share their vision for the Hartford they want in 2035, its 400th birthday. You can view a draft of the plan on their web page- <https://hartford2035.org>. The plan addresses five key areas- environment (green), economic development (grow), quality of life (live), transportation (move), and arts & culture (play).

I am particularly focused on green, because if we learn anything from this outbreak, it should be a wake-up call on how ill prepared we are for surprises that Mother Nature may toss our way. Climate change poses a much greater risk to our survival than the coronavirus, yet has not triggered a similarly dramatic response. The plan identifies a number of goals that can directly improve public health and build resiliency toward future shocks. I found it comforting to think – dream- about a safer, healthier, and more just future Hartford. There are also a couple goals that we can start working on today to help us maintain our balance

through these trying times.

A simple task to get you off the couch and still preserve social distance is to pick up litter in your yard. The City's Clean Hartford campaign is promoting a door- knob to curb clean up. Get a little fresh air and exercise and make your neighborhood a bit more attractive – and healthy!

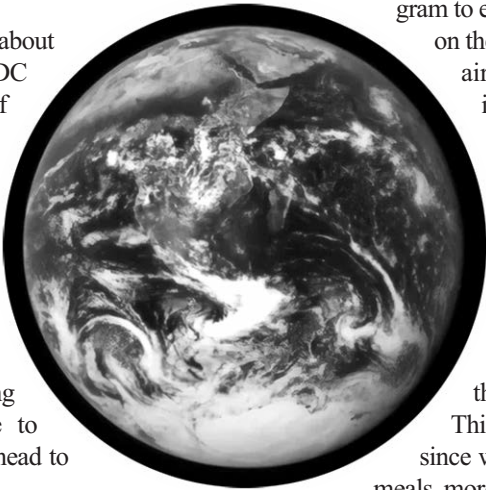
The Tree Commission is promoting a program to encourage residents to plant trees on their property. Trees help clean the air, reduce heat island effects, increase property values, and can even help reduce crime. Go outside and "see" a tree being planted in your yard later this spring, after the current crisis has passed. For more information, contact Jack Hale (jack.hale@comcast.net).

We now have the time to think a bit more about recycling. This could be particularly timely since we may be resorting to take- out meals more often. RecycleCT has a web

page (www.recyclect.com) to make recycling simple. Simply type in the name of the waste item you have to learn whether to toss in the blue bin or dispose in the black bin.

I encourage you to read the plan, dream of a better Hartford, and submit your thoughts. J. Robert Oppenheimer thought, "The optimist thinks this is the best of all possible worlds. The pessimist fears it is true." We need to take common sense precautions and remain optimistic. Give yourselves a break from worry and let your imagination refresh your sense of well-being. My fantasy dream for Hartford 2035 is a trash plant like the one in Copenhagen (<https://qz.com/1560143/copenhagens-state-of-the-art-power-plant-doubles-as-a-ski-slope/>) that not only implements state- of- the- art pollution control to protect public health and the environment, but also offers a ski hill and wall climbing attraction.

Let's make a Hartford better able to deal with future surprises from Mother Nature!



Bollywood Comes to Parkville!

Krishna Parekh teaches a class in Bollywood-style dancing at the Hartford Dance Collective, 30 Arbor Street, Hartford, on Friday, March 13. Parekh, Miss Connecticut International 2017, demonstrated the elabortae hand gestures and facial expressions that are a part of this type of dancing. (Hart photo)

Bill Katz Commentary

Continued from page 5

\$2.50 donation that will be waived if requested. Everyone will be served. Just call: 860-560-5848

So just do as I say and don't forget to give me all your dirty money and stay home. You're alive. Or are you?

One more thing. You're welcome to enjoy my Coronavirus song on YouTube. Just search "Corona

Pneumonia and the Boogie Woogie Flu, Bill Katz, Hartford, YouTube" and you'll find it. Feel free to post a comment there. And then go back and watch it again so my watch hits continue to go up. In fact, please watch it five times every day. The more the hits, the more the algorithms give me notice.

And last but not least, if you're a business, why not patronize The Hartford News with a small ad in

order to promote your business and help keep them in business. It's down to the wire. They can't keep publishing without community support.

*Nero fiddled while Rome burned,
Trump diddled while America turned.*

El Informativo Latino

Hartford Hospital se prepara para el aumento de Coronavirus y señala preocupación por el tiempo de respuesta de los resultados de la prueba

El sistema del Hospital Hartford dice que se están preparando para un aumento repentino. Acaban de registrar su primera muerte por Coronavirus, y los tiempos de respuesta lentos para los resultados de las pruebas se están volviendo frustrantes.

En este momento, el Hospital Hartford ha tenido 43 pruebas positivas para Coronavirus. Se admiten 12 pacientes. Dicen que están haciendo planes de contingencia y preparándose para un aumento repentino. "No hay duda de que hay un componente de miedo y reflexión", dijo Jim Cardon, director de integración clínica de Hartford Healthcare.

"Hay una seriedad en el trabajo de todos y un compromiso completo. Creo que todos reconocemos que, aunque estos son tiempos muy desafiantes, es para eso que nos inscribimos ... Va a ser estresante y todo el mundo está haciendo todo lo posible para manejar todas estas emociones complejas. La pérdida de nuestro primer paciente quizás trajo todo un poco más a casa".

Sabiendo que lo peor aún les espera, la red de Hartford Healthcare se está preparando para lo que llaman un aumento repentino. "Nos estamos preparando para lo peor con la esperanza de no tener que seguir ese camino para asegu-

rarnos de tener el espacio, el personal y los suministros adecuados", dijo el Dr. Cardon.

Están aprovechando tanto los laboratorios comerciales como los recursos estatales. Hartford Healthcare ha realizado más de 1,000 pruebas. Pero el 60% de ellos aún están pendientes con tiempos de respuesta que oscilan entre 48 horas y cinco días. "El tiempo de respuesta ha sido bastante variable. Es un desafío y parte del retraso que hemos articulado se debe al aumento en las pruebas. Estas pruebas llevan algún tiempo".

El medicamento contra la malaria demostró anecdóticamente que ayuda a los pacientes con COVID-19. "La ciencia todavía está evolucionando obviamente. Todavía hay incógnitas sobre la efectividad y los riesgos de eso, pero sí, estamos buscando asegurar los suministros para que podamos usarlo de la manera adecuada en caso de que se convierta en una recomendación".

Hay que desinfectar paquetes que llegan por correo? Dicen los expertos

¿Necesitas desinfectar paquetes

que lleguen por correo? Según el Servicio Postal de Estados Unidos, sí.

Si bien es cierto que los paquetes por correo tienen un riesgo bastante bajo, el COVID-19 puede vivir en algunas superficies hasta tres días, según un reciente estudio.

LEE: Antes de la tos y fiebre, este podría ser el primer signo de coronavirus

De acuerdo con los Centros para el Control y la Prevención de Enfermedades (CDC), una persona pueda contraer este virus al tocar una superficie u objeto que tiene el virus y luego tocarse la cara.

Aunque no se cree que esta sea la principal forma en que el virus se extiende.

Pero no tiene sentido desperdiciar una carga de desinfectante o lejía en todas esas cajas de cartón. Citando al sitio web cultofmac, así es cómo puedes abrir un paquete y disminuir el riesgo de infección por coronavirus:

- Primero, elimina el embalaje exterior.
- Como vas a tirar eso, quizás sea mejor abrir la caja y luego sacarla de la casa para ponerla en el cesto de reciclaje.
- Si mantienes tus cestos de reciclaje en el garaje, entonces puedes abrir el paquete allá afuera, lejos de tu hogar desinfectado.
- LEE: No compres alimentos aprobados por WIC durante cuarentena por COVID-19

No permitas que ninguna de las capas del empaque toque nada más dentro de tu hogar, en la medida de lo posible.

Por lo tanto, el plan es quitar primero las capas externas y luego desinfectar lo que queda. Entonces:

- Quizás quieras ponerte guantes, mientras abres el empaque en garaje y lo dejas todo allí.
- Desecha las capas.
- Luego desinfecta tus manos.
- Desinfecta también el cortador de cajas que usaste para abrirlo.
- Desinfecta el artículo
- Y lava tus manos otra vez.

CRT Food Resources for Adults

Meals on Wheels

For decades, Meals On Wheels has been providing food for home-bound senior citizens experiencing food insecurity. The service is available through the Community Renewal Team for residents of Hartford, Tolland and Middlesex counties. A \$2.50 donation per meal is suggested to defray cost. To qualify, individuals need to be age 60 and over, and must be medically home-bound with a doctor's statement that the individual is unable to leave his or her home. Those who are approved will have meals delivered weekdays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Call 60-560-5848 for more information.

Senior Community Cafes

For non-homebound seniors, the Community Renewal Team (CRT) operates Senior Community Cafes in dozens of towns. Those currently open in Hartford are listed below. Call first to make sure the cafe is still open.

- **Parkville Senior Center:** 11 New Park Avenue, Hartford, (860) 232-7867 (Mon - Fri)
- **Smith Towers:** 80 Charter Oak Avenue, Hartford, (860) 723-8448 (Mon - Fri)
- **Hispanic Senior Center:** 45 Wadsworth Street, Hartford, (860) 527-1124 (Mon - Fri)

To check on the availability of CRT programs and services during this Coronavirus crisis. It is here: <https://covid19.crtct.org/>

CREC Social Distancing Video Contest

The Capitol Region Education Council (CREC) is sponsoring a video contest for all students in the Hartford Region.

Submit your best and most creative video that addresses the issue of social distancing. It can be a music video, comedy, sci-fi, documentary, animation, public service announcement, etc.

To submit your video, go to: www.crec.org/c/sdvidcontest.

RULES

- 1) Submit a link of a video that must be posted to YouTube (unlisted), Vimeo (private link),

- or Google Drive (shared with anyone with link)
- 2) Your video cannot be longer than 60 seconds
- 3) Must be written, directed, and performed by PreK-12 public school student(s) from Connecticut
- 4) must be submitted by 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, April 5th.
- 5) Students working collaboratively must do so remotely

PRIZES

- 1st place - \$400; 2nd place - \$200; 3rd place - \$100

Apply Now for Community Garden Plots

KNOX, Inc. is now accepting applications for plots in its 20 community gardens located throughout the city.

KNOX Community Gardens

ASYLUM HILL

- Aetna Garden: 45 Sigourney St.
- Hartford Public H.S. Garden: 55 Forest St.
- Huntington Garden: 31 Huntington St.
- Niles Garden: 17 Niles St.
- Sargeant St. Garden: 256 Sargeant St.

BLUE HILLS

- Watkinson Garden: 50 Bloomfield Ave.

FROG HOLLOW

- Affleck Garden: 154 Affleck St.
- Broad Street Garden: 650 Broad St.

- KNOX Garden: 75 Laurel St.
- Pope Park Garden: 1000 Park St.

SHELDON/CHARTER OAK

- Good Shepherd Garden: 167 Wyllys St.

BEHIND THE ROCKS

- Dart Garden: 240 Dart St.

CLAY-ARSENAL

- Battles Street Garden: 80 Battles St.
- Winter Green Garden: 9 Winter St.

NORTH EAST

- Enfield Street Garden: 122 Enfield St.
- Mount Moriah Garden: 151 Earle St.

SOUTH GREEN

- Hudson Street Garden: 356 Hudson St.

UPPER ALBANY

- Cabot Street Garden: 34 Cabot St.

WEST END

- Evergreen Garden: 40 Evergreen Ave.
- West End Garden: 165 Girard Ave.

Garden plot sizes range from 300 square feet (15x20) to 625 square feet (25x25). KNOX gardeners receive free seeds, water, and as much advice as needed. Prices vary from garden to garden, call 860-951-7694 for more information. To file an application email Kim Beale, KNOX Community Engagement Manager, at 860-951-7694.

CORONAVIRUS PLAN DE ACCIÓN PARA EL HOGAR

La Organización Mundial de la Salud ha clasificado el coronavirus como una pandemia, y esperan que el número de casos aumente en las próximas semanas. Cada hogar debe tomar medidas básicas, como lavarse las manos, minimizar el contacto innecesario. Cada hogar también debe crear un Plan de Acción Para el Hogar.

HABLE

...con personas que necesitan ser incluidas en su plan. Hable con familiares y amigos sobre las necesidades de cada persona si la pandemia de coronavirus ocurre en su comunidad. Haga una lista de personas con condiciones de salud crónica. Una pandemia es cuando una gran cantidad de personas se enferma de repente.

HAGA

...lo básico para reducir la posibilidad de que usted se enferme, como lavarse las manos bien, evitar tocarse la cara y evitar contacto innecesario con otros.



ESCUCHE

...vea y lea. Preste atención a las noticias todos los días. TV, radio, periódico y noticias en línea tendrán actualizaciones periódicas. Vaya a Coronavirus.gov para la última información de médicos expertos.

LLAME

...Hartford HealthCare ofrece las 24 horas una línea directa bilingüe al 860-972-8100 si está preocupado y tiene síntomas de coronavirus, como fiebre, tos y falta de aire, dificultad al respirar. No vaya a un hospital sin llamar, a menos que sea una emergencia médica.

PLANEE

...maneras de cuidar a los que están en mayor riesgo, incluyendo personas mayores y personas de cualquier edad con condiciones de salud crónicas como enfermedad cardíaca, diabetes y enfermedad en los pulmones. Consulte con su proveedor de salud para más información sobre cómo monitorear su salud.

CREE

...una lista actual de emergencias de contactos para familiares, amigos, proveedores de atención médica, escuelas, empleadores y otros recursos de la comunidad.

Para obtener la información más actualizada sobre coronavirus/covid-19 en los Estados Unidos visite www.Coronavirus.gov



La Diferente Radio

Las Mas Caliente

WILFREDO AYALA
General Manager

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